

## **Abstract**

### **Method and device for detecting the attention level of a vehicle operator**

The invention relates to a method for detecting the attention level of a vehicle operator, wherein a steering performance of the vehicle operator is monitored, as well as to a device (30) for detecting the attention level of a vehicle operator, with at least one sensor device detecting the steering performance of the vehicle and with a signal measurement and evaluation unit (32).

According to the method of the invention, a phase relationship between a change of a steering angle ( $\beta$ ) of at least one steerable wheel (22) of the vehicle and a change of the steering wheel angle ( $\alpha$ ) is evaluated. With the device of the invention, at least one signal (48) corresponding to the attention level can be generated, with the signal depending on a phase relationship between a steering angle ( $\beta$ ) of at least one steerable wheel (22) of the vehicle and a steering wheel angle ( $\alpha$ ).

(Fig. 1)